

# WITH THE FARMERS

By Prof. W. F. MASSEY

## Root Lice.

"Please tell me what sort of guano to use to prevent the root lice in corn and cotton."

There is no guano used for this purpose. If you use tobacco stems for the furrows it will make a good fertilizer and will prevent the root lice. Tobacco is the best form of the specific against all kinds of plant lice or aphids.

## Volunteer Oats.

From down in the Pamunkey country, I found a few heavy grain. I took out the public road which had seven or eight stalks, and I counted an average head that had fifty-seven seeds, making a total of 4,338 seeds. Please say through The Times-Dispatch if this is unusual in Virginia. If it is a freak, why? The birds got most of the seed, but I got enough to plant some, and will experiment with them and try my hand at improving oats. One of those who believe that wonders can be done here in old Virginia by more intensive farming and improvement in seed. I have been away from the State for thirty-two years, and have returned after learning what is done elsewhere and believe Virginia is still a good country for "industrious people." You are certainly right as to the opportunity for industries and industries farmers in Virginia. As regards the volunteer oats you have found, the stool was certainly very remarkable, and if the cause of it is a few heavy grain, it is worth while to experiment with them. But they may be a chance product of some Northern spring oats accidentally scattered along the road, and the last mild winter favored them. But in our usual winters most of the spring oats will suffer or be killed. Still there is no reason why you should not experiment with the seed, and be careful in rows early in September and then keep them clean of weeds, and by the spring you will be able to see what they will do in the way of living through the cold weather and steeling out as they did by the roadside.

## Hogs on Clover.

From Louisa County: "I have about five hogs. I will give a fact for market, and am contemplating turning them on a clover field shortly. Now, as a matter of agricultural economics, the clover is two and a half feet high or more. Would it be best to cut the clover and give the hogs the second growth, or would it be best to turn them on the crop now? Would not the hogs run over a lot that they would not use of course, I shall have them some corner where the clover it will be some time before the second growth is advanced enough to amount to much for the hogs. I would turn them on at once, and you will say that the hogs will eat the clover that much added to the soil. In fact, I hardly think that it will be necessary to feed them corn during the hot weather."

## Tobacco on Yellow.

"My tobacco on yellow. I use 800 pounds an acre of a ready-made fertilizer, is not growing, and is small and yellow. I cultivated it deep and wide, and use some nitrate of soda, and have made an acre. You do not say what the fertilizer you used had in it, but with an application of 800 pounds an acre it must have been poor stuff. If the tobacco is poorly growing, an application of 150 pounds of nitrate of soda will undoubtedly make a change in the crop. Scatter it out where the leaves reach, and not up to the stems, for the feeding roots are out in the soil as far as the leaves are above it. You should always give more attention to what the fertilizer contains and the sources of its ingredients than to any brand name."

## Making a Pasture.

"I have a small lot enclosed, and have applied 500 pounds of Thomas phosphate and sown to peas, and scattered cuttings of Bermuda grass in the furrows as it was plowed. I want to get it into a good state for next year. What shall I put there in the fall? I suppose you mean what more grass shall you add in the fall. I rather suspect that the Bermuda grass will not do much this year. It is best for Bermuda is a sun-loving grass, and does not thrive in the shade, and you have the peas there to shade it. Sowing peas thickly is one of the best ways to destroy weeds. If you have vines, you can cut the peas when mature for hay, and in the fall sow seed of Canada blue grass and Kentucky blue grass about ten pounds of each an acre, and brush them in lightly with a smooth, heavy harrow, and grasses, with what Bermuda may be left will soon do the land."

## Trouble With Watermelons.

"I have half an acre in watermelons, and they are beginning to rot around the roots. I think it is the ants around the roots, which I think must be the cause. Can you tell me the cause and remedy? I think that if you will examine the roots you will find that the ants are eating the roots or applying. The presence of the ants would indicate that for the ants are very fond of the sweet honey-dew excretion from the plant life, and they take care of their eggs in winter and carry them to places where they are fed. But the ants do not themselves attack plants. It may do some good to put tobacco dust from a smoking tobacco factory thickly around the roots. It would have been better to have had no lice on the roots, either gray or black, then it is probable that the trouble is the starting of the wilt disease, and for that there is no remedy at all."

## Crickets and Bud Worms.

"Is the cricket responsible for the bud worm mites? I have heard that the cricket lays the eggs that make the bud worm, and want to know. The fact is that the cricket does not lay between the cricket and the bud worm. Crickets have no worm-like stage, but grow by moulting like the grasshopper. The bud worm is the larva of a moth. This insect goes into the third or pupa stage in the ground in the fall. Late fall plowing will expose these to the cold and will kill a great many of them. Then in the spring you can drain the land, and that will destroy more. See that the land is well drained, for lack of drainage encourages them. But the cricket is perfectly innocent of bud worms."

## Cabbage Snakes.

"I am sending you what is called the cabbage snake. Please let me know through the paper what it is, and if it is dangerous poison? The little hair-like worm is Gordius aquaticus. It hatches in pools of water, and the young get into the bodies of insects like aphids and grasshoppers, and live on their bodies, and later come out and seek pools of water or water in any place as in a cabbage."

leaf, to lay their eggs. They are not snakes, nor kin to snakes, and are perfectly harmless. You might eat them without ever knowing it. But as they are usually found at the base of the outer leaves, where some insect has left them, they can always be gotten rid of, as they are not in the interior of the cabbage head. But they do no harm to the cabbage or to any one eating them.

**Late Irish Potatoes.**  
"What is the best fertilizer for late Irish potatoes, and how much an acre, and when to plant them? I have already given my method of planting and cultivating the late crop of Irish potatoes. Late June or early July is the time, and a mixture of 1,000 pounds of acid phosphate, 500 pounds of cottonseed meal and 400 pounds of muriate of potash will make a ton of good fertilizer. Use 500 pounds an acre in the furrows."

**Liquid Fertilizer.**  
This is from New York State: "Please tell me what quantities of phosphate, nitrate of soda and potash to mix to make a liquid fertilizer for garden plants." You can put a heaping spoonful of nitrate of soda, a table-spoonful of acid phosphate and a tea-spoonful of muriate of potash in a two-gallon watering pot, and use this, after watering the plants with clear water. Applied when the soil is very dry, it might damage them, but it will be safe applied when the soil is moist."

**Wire Worms.**  
"My land is infested with wire worms. Can you give a remedy? The wire worms are the larva of the click-beetle, the long beetle that if you lay it on its back will click and turn over. The boys know it well. These, like the bud worms, go into the pupa state in the fall and late fall plowing will destroy many of them, and the heavy use of kaint with the bud worms, will help. Keeping the land free of weeds and grass in the fall, where they harbor, and a short rotation of crops will help too. They are more troublesome when a soil is turned for corn, as they breed there."

**Influence of Legumes on Other Crops.**  
I have stated more than once that peas sown in the fall will benefit the corn. This was found true at the Kansas station, where plots of corn with peas sown among the corn made more grain than those without the peas. Similar results were had at the Cornell station. In New York last summer, in conversation with Dr. C. G. Hopkins, of the Illinois station, I asked what he had found as the result of sowing peas in the fall. He said that at their station they had found to decrease the crop. Here seemed to be opposite results, but it seems that they are easily explained. We know that peas and other legumes, in a mixed crop, have an abundance of readily available nitrogen, which will be taken up by the corn. In fact, I hardly think that it will be necessary to feed them corn during the hot weather."

More recently, experiments have been made at the New Jersey station, and the conclusion was that "under favorable conditions nonlegumes, associated with legumes, may secure large amounts of nitrogen from the latter. The presence of the nonlegume does not decrease the amount of dry matter and nitrogen in the legume crop." When nitrate of soda was applied to the mixed crop, the nonlegume gained an advantage, and the growth of the legume crop was depressed, and was found to contain less nitrogen. Everything else being equal, the greater the amount of available nitrogen applied to the crop, the greater the yield of the nonlegume and the smaller that of the legume."

**What Does This Teach Us.**  
A farmer writes to me, as many have done, that he wants to use a side dressing of nitrate of soda on his corn, and intends to sow peas among it. Now doubtless the application will increase the growth of the corn, but he will not get the peas. The peas will be killed by the nitrate. That is, the peas will take up the readily available nitrogen and neglect to get nitrogen from the air, and the farmer will have paid high for all the nitrogen he got from the nitrate, and will have lost what he could have gotten without cost from the air, had the peas been allowed to do their work, as they would have done without nitrate."

An application of nitrate of soda alongside corn will, as I have said, greatly increase the growth of the corn. But it is a question as to how much it will increase the yield in grain. It will cost over \$2 an acre to price that it is very doubtful that there will be an increase of \$2 in the crop, and certainly a loss from the peas. This is exactly in line with what I have been insisting on for years: that it does not pay to buy nitrogen for the corn crop. In fact, the farmer on a grain farm who practices a good short rotation and grows and feeds legume crops, and always has grain, clover, and alfalfa, and on which he has spread all his corn, will never need to buy an ounce of nitrogen in a fertilizer."

This has been proven in the experience of hundreds of the best wheat farmers in Maryland, who have, for years, been increasing their crops of wheat, while buying no ammoniated fertilizer whatever. Some years ago I was at a farmers' meeting in one of the best wheat counties in Maryland. A lecturer from New York State made a very interesting talk on fertilizers, and spoke of their composition as complete fertilizers, and the lecturer said that when he was through I said to him that perhaps he did not know that in the more than two hundred farmers present, there were hardly a dozen who had bought any nitrogen in a fertilizer for twenty years. He seemed surprised at this, but soon found that I was right, when he asked the farmers.

And yet, to-day, all over the South, cotton farmers are applying nitrogen in abundance in the cotton seed, and then trying to replace it with two hundred pounds of 2-8-2 fertilizer, putting back four pounds of ammonia to replace the nitrogen that they have robbed from the soil instead of changing their seed for meal and feeding it to stock, and thus getting far more nitrogen without spending a cent for it. No wonder the land grows poorer, and they complain that fertilizers are only stimulants.

# The Weber Piano

A Piano of long established reputation—one of the many high-grade instruments we carry. In appearance, construction, action, tone—in fact, the WEBER meets every requirement of a first-class piano. Free illustrated catalogue upon request.

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103 EAST BROAD STREET.

Oldest Music House in Virginia and North Carolina.

# NEGRO CRIMINALS DRAW LONG TERMS

Henrico Jury Gives Highwayman Ten Years and Burglar Three Years in Pen.

High finance is not desired in Henrico County, especially the crude efforts which marked the attempts of Joe Price and Charles Herman, both colored, to raise the wind. Joe, who was tried yesterday before Judge R. Carter Scott, in Henrico Circuit Court, on an indictment in which he was charged with stealing 19 cents and a necktie by true Jesse James methods, was convicted and sentenced to ten years in the State Penitentiary. Herman, charged with burglary, in which he secured a watch, a revolver and \$100 in cash, will do three years as his bid.

While the booty taken by Price was small, the evidence produced at his trial showed that his case was particularly aggravating. It was proved that he held up Percy Rice, a fourteen-year-old newsboy, and after choking and beating him, went through his pockets and emptied them of the proceeds of his daily sales. Not satisfied with the small amount of cash, Price jerked the newsboy violently from around the boy's throat. Herman is the man who has threatened the county police guessing on the money question. Going to jail penitentiary, or at least without a cent as far as the police could ascertain by right search, he has lived on the luxuries of the season, and appeared for trial in a new tailor-made suit which he had purchased and paid for while behind the bars. His offense was the robbery of the home of Joseph Becker, in Henrico County. A revolver and watch, which he was about to pawn, led to his arrest.

The criminal side of the summer term will end this morning when James Daves, colored, will be arraigned for murderous assault. He is charged with attempting to kill John Stanley, colored, on Chelsea Hill in a fight over a woman. Stanley was wounded, but has recovered. Daves was captured six weeks after the alleged offense was committed in Mecklenburg County, where he was traced by Deputy Sheriff Webb W. Snyder.

## Building Permits.

Building permits were issued yesterday as follows:

Rev. M. H. Payne, to build a two-story frame dwelling on the north side of Wallace Street, between Beecher and Meadow Streets, at a cost of \$1,375.

Lewis H. Baird, to erect a brick garage in the rear of his residence on the south side of Monument Avenue, between Addison Street and Davis Avenue, at a cost of \$2,500.

Mrs. L. L. Hudson, to erect a two-story frame dwelling at 1112 Oakwood Avenue, at a cost of \$2,500.

Mrs. E. C. Payne, to repair dwelling at 1295 North Twenty-fourth Street, at a cost of \$125.

John Fraser, to repair frame dwelling at 2408 West Main Street, at a cost of \$125.

J. G. Scott, to repair a brick storage warehouse at 324 North Sixth Street, at a cost of \$350.

H. S. Walcott and E. H. Gunst, to repair a brick store at 307 North Sixth Street, at a cost of \$100.

H. S. Walcott, to repair frame dwelling at 316 South Sixth Street, at a cost of \$125.

C. P. Walcott, to repair frame dwelling at 2703 East Grace Street, at a cost of \$500.

**Arrested for Desertion.**  
Joseph E. Hargrove, a white man, thirty-four years old, was arrested last night on the charge of having deserted his wife and infant child. He was arrested by a patrolman and taken to the police station. He was held by Probation Officers Poiteaux and Wheaton.

**Joint Excursion to Buckroe.**  
Large numbers of tickets have been sold by the Ashbury Methodist and Goodwill Avenue Christian Sunday schools, which will run a joint picnic to Buckroe Beach to-day. In addition to the children, who go free, one of the largest crowds of the year is expected to make the trip. Special arrangements have been made with the Virginia Railway and Power Company to handle the excursionists and assure their safe arrival at the depot. The train will leave Main Street Station at 8 o'clock, and will leave Buckroe at 7 P. M.

**Lawn Parties and Socials.**  
On the lawn in front of her home at Tenth and Decatur Streets, Mrs. Ida B. Boyd will give a social to-night during the progress of the band concert in Washington Park. The proceeds will be for the benefit of the annex fund of Bainbridge Street Baptist Church.

A Japanese social for the benefit of Weatherford Memorial Church will be given on the corner lawn to-night by the Baptist Young People's Union.

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# KOINER'S METHODS AGAIN UNDER FIRE

Correspondence With State Auditor Moore May Be Made Campaign Issue.

Correspondence between State Auditor of Public Accounts C. Lee Moore and Commissioner of Agriculture George W. Koiner in regard to the method of issuing vouchers for the funds of the Department of Agriculture may have a considerable bearing on the pending contest between Mr. Koiner and J. Thompson Brown, of Henrico County. It was stated at the headquarters of Mr. Koiner last night that a reference to the matter published yesterday afternoon had not been issued from that office. It appears that in August, 1912, Auditor Moore wrote to Commissioner Koiner requesting that his methods of accounting be made more explicit, and that vouchers be made to indicate the purpose for which they are drawn, as was and is the practice of every other State Department. Mr. Koiner demurred and further correspondence passed between the officials. The methods of keeping the accounts of the Department of Agriculture were made a sharply drawn issue in the campaign between Messrs. Brown and Koiner four years ago. Reports of expert accountants, in which the office was sharply criticized, were published and were not answered.

**Auditor Took Matter Up.**  
It will be recalled that about four years ago a number of vouchers were found to be missing from the records of the Department of Agriculture, publication of which fact was made at the time. As the warrants drawn on the auditor did not indicate in detail what the money was to be used for, the loss of these vouchers from the Department of Agriculture leaves the State without direct record of how the money was used. It was apparently due to their relatives of the Department of Agriculture, who were not to be held responsible for the loss of the vouchers. Mr. Koiner, who was then Auditor, shortly after assuming office, wrote Mr. Koiner asking that he conform to the practice of other departments.

The funds of the Department of Agriculture are derived from a tax on fertilizer, collected by the Department, and it has been contended that the department had absolute control over this fund and could draw on it without detailed statements of expenditures. The issue was a prominent one in the campaign four years ago, and in view of the stand taken by State Auditor Moore for complete records of expenditures, it may be that it will be revived during the current campaign. Mr. Brown said last night that he had authorized no statement on the subject, reporters who had sought to interview him being referred to official files in the auditor's office. Mr. Brown was willing to express any opinion or to be quoted in any way in regard to the matter, beyond the statement that he would make no charge not susceptible of absolute and complete proof.

**Dr. Moxley Low Elected.**  
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] Alexandria, Va., July 9.—City Council at a meeting held last night elected Dr. Moxley Low a member of the Common Council from the Fourth Ward to fill out the unexpired term caused by the resignation of Councilman Charles B. Swan. Council at a joint session also re-elected Robert J. Groma, Jr., as chief and Joseph Sherwood as superintendent of the city almshouse.

**High Honor Paid Captain Quinby.**  
He Leaves Ship With Officers Taking Place of Enlisted Men on Gig.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] Norfolk, Va., July 9.—When Captain John G. Quinby gave up command of the United States transport ship Franklin to-day and retired to private life, in accordance with the findings of the recruiting board, he was accorded by officers and members of the Franklin crew the highest possible honor—highest of all that could be accorded. The President of the United States, Captain Quinby's departure from the Franklin was marked by officers of that ship taking the places of enlisted men on the boat that took him ashore. Whenever a President visits a government vessel, the places of enlisted men are taken by officers and non-officers. The captain's gig, in which Captain Quinby and his family left the Franklin, was commanded by Lieutenant L. H. Maxwell, as coxswain; Lieutenant V. L. Gibson, engineer; Medical Assistant R. C. Crandall, freeman; Past Assistant Surgeon Harlin, Paymaster H. H. Hargrove, and several other officers. He will be held for a hearing this morning before Justice Maurice.

Mary Coleman, colored, was dismissed yesterday when arraigned in Police Court, Part II, on a charge of stealing a hat from Owen Sperrer.

**Odd Fellows Install Officers.**  
Officers elected at the last meeting of Stuart Lodge, No. 141, I. O. O. F., were installed Tuesday night at the regular meeting. Past Grand Master D. S. Moody conducted the installation. The new officers are: past grand, W. H. Craig; noble grand, T. R. Bryant; vice-grand, John L. Inge; secretary, George W. Blankenship; treasurer, E. S. Moody; conductor, E. P. Smith; wardens, W. Roach, right supporter, noble grand, C. V. Green; left supporter, noble grand, A. I. Walthall; inside guard, B. T. Roach; outside guard, W. L. Childress; chaplain, E. G. Andrews; right supporter vice-grand, H. G. Bauley; left supporter vice-grand, L. W. Clark.

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# Men, it is Important

Nowadays to have your office look inviting and cheerful—not just a hole in the wall, with antiquated and clumsy equipment.

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# NEWS OF SOUTH RICHMOND

REFUSES TO GIVE NAMES

DO GOOD WORK ON BRIDGE

**Young Men Go to Jail Rather Than Let Parents Know of Trouble.**

Rather than notify their relatives of their predicament, two young white men, giving their names as B. Blanks and Tasswell Vestine, but said to be prominently connected and holding responsible positions on the northside, went to jail yesterday morning in the fault of fines of \$5 and costs imposed for being drunk and disorderly on Hull Street. They were arrested late Tuesday night by Officer Charles T. Tinsley, and when arraigned before Justice H. Maurice, were much the worse for wear. Neither could scrape up the collateral, and each stubbornly refused to divulge his true name and status. There was nothing left to be done except to remand them to jail. How they will explain their sudden disappearance from the social whirl is a question to which they apparently had not given a thought. The police are confidently expecting them to relent after spending a few days in seclusion along the Shockoe.

**Patterson Agnito Elected President.**

J. H. Patterson, president of the Mechanics and Merchants Bank, has been honored for the twenty-fourth time with the presidency of the Marine Building and Loan Association. He has held this position since the organization of the company in 1889. Other officers who have been re-elected are: Bernard P. Vaden, vice-president; J. H. Patterson, secretary; Walter E. DuVal, Andrew J. Daffron, William J. Morrisett, John W. Moore, J. Pay DuVal, James F. Bradley, M. A. Campbell, Thomas J. Nicholas, Kenneth Smith and James E. Bedford. Directors of the Marine Building and Loan Association are: J. H. Patterson, president; J. H. Patterson, secretary; Walter E. DuVal, Andrew J. Daffron, William J. Morrisett, John W. Moore, J. Pay DuVal, James F. Bradley, M. A. Campbell, Thomas J. Nicholas, Kenneth Smith and James E. Bedford. The association has a capital of \$100,000 and a surplus of \$100,000. It has a total of 1,200 shares, of which it has sold 1,100. The association has a total of 1,200 shares, of which it has sold 1,100. The association has a total of 1,200 shares, of which it has sold 1,100.

**With Southside Police.**

A general alarm has been sent out by the relatives of J. H. Fry, of Swanboro, who has been missing from his home for several weeks. He is a forty-five years old, five feet, nine inches in height, and is a carpenter by trade.

Jim Smith, colored, was arrested last night on a charge of embezzlement. He will be held for a hearing this morning before Justice Maurice.

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